

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents some important aspects used in gathering the data. The aspects involve research design, research subject, data collection and instruments, and data analysis.

3.1 Research Design

In conducting this research, one of the important elements of research is research design. Creswell (2010) claims that research design is the plan and the procedure for research that spans the decisions from broad assumption to detailed method of data collection and analysis. This research used descriptive qualitative design because there was no control and treatment group. Descriptive research is a research which does not need hypotheses in conducting the research (Tarigan 1992:106).

The writer used descriptive qualitative approach to explore and to describe the errors faced by the students in using Simple Present Tense. Qualitative approach was appropriate to capture the analyzing of students error in using Simple Present Tense.

3.2 Research Subject

The subject of this research was students task in the eighth graders in writing descriptive text of Simple Present Tense. This school was chosen as the place to do the research because the writer ever did an Internship III. The problem when the researcher found was the students were still confused how to apply tenses in particular Simple Present Tense. They did not understand how to use

subject verb-agreement, and its usage. Therefore, the researcher can conclude that their ability in Simple Present Tense was still low.

3.3 Data Collection

The aim of the research is to get data. The data is the important tools in the research which are in the form of phenomenon in the field and number. From the data, the researcher will know the result of the research. Collecting the data must be relevant with the problem of research. Data is information that has been collected by conducting research. To get the reliable data, the researcher has to do some techniques for collecting those data. Data collection technique is an important step in research, because the aim of the research is to get the data. In this research, researcher used some techniques such as interview and document.

Instrument is tool that is required to get information. Arikunto (2000: 134) reveals that instrument in collecting data is a tool that is used by researcher to help them in collecting data in order to make it more systematic and easy. In this research, the writer used some instruments which were interview guideline, and students writing task.

3.3.1 Data Collection Technique and Instruments

3.3.1.1 Data Collection Technique

In this research, the researcher used some techniques to collect the data. Those were:

1. Interview

According to Ary et al. (2010), interview is used to gain data about certain situation from people directly based on their opinions, beliefs, feelings, and experience to reveal a phenomenon under study. The aim of interview is to

explore the views, experiences, beliefs and/or motivations of individuals on specific matters. Interview is believed to provide a 'deeper' understanding of social phenomena (Stewart et al., 2008, p.204).

According to Dawson (2009), interview is divided into three types which are unstructured, semi-structured, and structured interview.

- a. Unstructured interview is the participant is free to talk about what he or she deems important, with little directional influence from the researcher. In this type of interview, the researcher attempts to achieve the understanding of the interviewees' point of view or situation.
- b. Semi-structured interview is perhaps the most common type of interview used in qualitative social research. In this type of interview, the researcher wants to know the specific information which can be compared and contrasted with information gained in other interviews. To do this, the same questions need to be asked in each interview. However, the researcher also wants the interview to remain flexible so that other important information can still arise.
- c. Structured interview is the interview that the question and alternative answer to the subjects are predetermined and followed with all respondents. This research method is highly structured.

In this study, the interviewee was an English teacher of eighth grade in SMP Raden Fatah Batu. The researcher used semi-structured interview in collecting the data. Semi-structured interview is more flexible in conducting this research. The writer could add some additional questions if there was an unclear answer from the interviewee, also ask something which was important from the

interviewee besides focusing on the way the teacher coped the students problem in using Simple Present Tense in writing descriptive text.

The writer also implemented some tools to get the data information. Those were tape recorder and interview guideline. Tape recorder is needed in conducting the interview. Then, the aim is to anticipate something which is missing in transferring the data. Interview guideline was used while doing an interview process. There were some questions in the form of list to ask the questions to the interviewee. The interview guideline can be seen in Appendix 1.

2. Document

Document is one of the data in the form of document. It can be personal, such as written documents; files of material of teaching, reports, etc. Ary (2002) describes documentation as follows:

“Qualitative researcher may also use written documents to gain an understanding of the phenomenon under study. These documents may be personal, such as autobiographies, diaries, and letters; official, such as files, reports, or minutes that have been prepared by observers of an event or setting; or documents of popular culture, such as book, films, and videos.”

In this research, the documentation was students' writing task of the eighth graders at SMP Raden Fatah Batu. The task was made by the researcher. Students had studied about this material before. So, it is possible to conduct this task based on the students' experience in learning this topic. The researcher asked the students to describe something, such as person, animal, or thing around their life. The topic was decided by the students to make more creativity in their thinking. The researcher asked them to write down descriptive text in thirty minutes. The reason to give time in thirty minutes is to maximize the time in conducting the research, due to the limited time of the students who want to take a middle examination. The task can be seen in Appendix 2. From the task, the researcher

wanted to analyze the students' errors in using Simple Present Tense in writing descriptive text.

3.4 Data Collection Procedures

There were some steps which were taken by the researcher in the process of collecting the data. Those were:

1. Asking permission to the teacher to take in time for conducting the research
2. Giving a task to the students in the classroom
3. Giving time about thirty minutes to the students to write down a descriptive text into paragraph
4. Collecting all the result of descriptive text
5. Doing an interview to the teacher for collecting the data about the way how the teacher helped the students to cope with their errors in using Simple Present Tense in descriptive text at SMP Raden Fatah Batu.

3.5 Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher analyzed the data. Wiersma (1991: 85) states that data analysis in qualitative research is a process of categorization, description, and synthesis. In addition, the researcher used descriptive analysis for this study.

The steps in analyzing the data are:

- a. The researcher selected, identified, and focused on the data by referring on the research problem
- b. The researcher displayed those data into written form
- c. The researcher drew a conclusion from the data.